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TRAWDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council - A. H. Robson, J.P.

Health Committee.

W. Banks (Chairman).

Mrs. I. G. Banks.

G. Bannister.

D. Barber.

G. Bolton.

W. Crowther.

T. Leyland.

W. F. Morville.

J. E. Pollard.

A. H. Robson, J.P.

R. Spencer.

K. Tunnacliffe.

Clerk of the Council.
William R. Fisher.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
John V. Dyer, M.B.,M.R.C.S.,D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.
R. H. Short, M.A.P.H.I.,A.R.S.H.

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TRAWDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



With the Compliments of

The Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
Trawden Forest,
Colne, Lancs.

Council Offices,
Trawden Forest,
Colne.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District for the Year ending 31st December 1965. The form and content are in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular dated 11th January 1966.

Once again there has been a modest reduction in the Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population. This is now almost an annual event, and reflects the situation throughout the whole of East Lancashire. What is particularly disturbing is that there was a natural decrease in population - excess of deaths over births - and this was less than the estimated reduction in population, sure proof of emigration. However, the proposed residential development in the near future will attract families; after all more people work here than live here. The bungalows for retirement pensioners will soon be completed and are a valuable addition to the facilities provided by the Council. When visiting all the applicants who offered medical grounds for rehousing, as well as age, I was surprised at the number who cannot climb stairs and are compelled to live a ground floor existence. Bungalows and flatlets are certainly the answer, and in addition, family houses are released for young married couples.

The age breakdown of deaths is interesting as half were over 75 years of age and 80% over 65 years of age:-

	Age of Death in Years										
	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	Total
Male	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	8	7	20
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	9	13

Yet again there were no deaths due to pregnancy or childbirth, but furthermore, it is pleasing to report that there were no stillbirths or infant deaths. It is deaths after the first month of life which are of particular importance to us as a Public Health Authority, as stillbirths and deaths soon after birth are primarily of medical causes, whereas generally speaking, later deaths are due to factors affecting the environment in which people live - our responsibility, good housing, clean food, modern sanitation etc.

Although there was no demolition of unfit property in 1965, plans were well ahead for some further slum clearance, and use made of the sites. It is now no secret that the County Council intend to build a "mini-clinic" in the centre of the village, probably in the year 1967-68, but depending on the financial situation generally. This project is a combined health centre and library and will be in the first set to be built in Lancashire.

A commendable start was made to clean up Wycoller, but there are a lot of odd, untidy, weed congested corners in various parts of the District which need tidying and perhaps planting with bulbs or shrubs. Waste land leads to rubbish, to rats, flies and disease, apart from the psychological feeling of depression.

There was a creditable increase in the amount of Standard Grant work and a satisfying rise in the number of waste water closets and pail closets converted, but there are still far too many not yet dealt with.

I acknowledge with sincere thanks the good work of Mr. Short and appreciate the continuing interest and willing co-operation of the Public Health Committee in our efforts for the good of the inhabitants of Trawden.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

J. V. Dyer,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area if District (acres)	6,815
Population (census 1951)	2,114
" (census 1961)	1,951
" (mid 1965) - Registrar General's Estimate	1,860
Number of inhabited houses (census 1961)	742
" " " " 1965	765
Rateable Value	£39,834
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£150

The social conditions of the District are very satisfactory. Being of only modest size there is a well developed community spirit and a high degree of self-help.

There is very little unemployment; indeed there is a daily influx of workers to the town from neighbouring districts.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are textile manufacture, agriculture, light engineering, and laundering.

	Males	Females	Total.
Live Births (Legitimate)	6	8	14
" " (Illegitimate)	1	1	2
	7	9	16

Live Birth Rates per 1,000 estimated population:-

Crude Rate	8.6
Adjusted Rate	10.8

Still Births — Nil.

	Males	Females	Total.
Deaths (All causes)	20	13	33
Deaths from Maternal causes	-	nil	nil
Deaths of Infants (under 1 year)	nil	nil	nil
Deaths of Infants (under 4 weeks)	nil	nil	nil
Deaths of Infants (under 1 week)	nil	nil	nil

Mortality Rates per 1,000 estimated population:-

Crude Rate	17.7
Adjusted Rate	16.3

Classification of causes of Death during 1965.

	Males	Females	Total.
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	4	8
Coronary Disease; Angina	8	3	11
Other Heart Disease	2	-	2
Other Circulatory Disease	-	4	4
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Accidents	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	2
	20	13	33

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE YEARS 1969 - 1965.

Year	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths (all causes)	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality	
					Under 4 weeks	Under 1 year
1965	16	nil	33	nil	nil	nil
1964	32	nil	24	nil	1	1
1963	32	nil	27	nil	nil	nil
1962	28	nil	35	nil	nil	nil
1961	31	nil	28	nil	2	2

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The main work of the health department concerns the control of infectious diseases and the environment in which we live - a service for which the Council is responsible.

The present section of the Report relates to those health services which concern the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than the population as a whole. The majority of these services are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council, which has delegated much of the day-to-day administration to the Divisional Health Committee (No.6) on which Trawden has a representative. Co-ordination of the services is facilitated by the fact that your Medical Officer of Health acts also as Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

National Health Service Act, 1946, Part III.

1. Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children:-

   Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics - Bank House, Albert Rd., Colne.
   Child Welfare and Immunisation - Church Hall, Trawden.
   (alternate Tuesdays 2 - 4 p.m.)
   - Hartley Hospital, Colne
   (alternate Tuesdays 2 - 4 p.m.)

2. Domiciliary Midwifery - two midwives are resident in Colne.

3. Health Visiting - from Bank House, Colne.

4. Home Nursing - Trawden is served by a District Nurse.

5. Home Help Service including night service.

6. Ambulance Service - Trawden is served from Nelson Ambulance Station. All vehicles are under radio control.

7. Mental Health - care, supervision and after-care of the Mentally Ill. A junior training centre for mentally subnormal children is available at Nelson, and a hostel, with an adjacent workshop, has been built at Colne for the employment of sub-normal adults.

8. Prevention of Illness - care and after-care. This includes Health Education, convalescent care, prevention of Tuberculosis, Chiropody, and loan of nursing equipment.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Welfare Services.

1. Homes for the aged - there are five homes in the Division belonging to the Lancashire County Council; in addition, two private homes for the aged, which are registered and regularly inspected.

2. Temporary accommodation is provided by the County Council for cases of urgent need, such as eviction, fire, flooding, etc.

3. Handicapped Persons - registers are kept so that all may be aquainted with and have the benefits of the help available. This includes occupational therapy, holiday schemes, and membership of one of the clubs, the nearest being at the British Legion Headquarters, Colne.

4. Section 47. No action was necessary during the year.

Education Act, 1944 - School Health Service.

The School Nurse is also the District Health Visitor and thus knows all the children from babyhood. She and the School Medical Officer visit the Trawden School regularly. In addition to the routine medical and dental inspections of children, various clinics, some attended by visiting specialists, are provided for the correction and treatment of certain defects.

Hospitals and Laboratory.

Hospital facilities for the Urban District are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee of which I am now a member.

Patients with infectious diseases who cannot be suitably cared for at home would go to Marsden Hospital.

Maternity Homes are available at Colne, Nelson and Burnley.

Pathological specimens and food samples are examined at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley and the Public Health Laboratory, Preston.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Apart from measles, the only other disease notified was scarlet fever, of which one case occurred. It is particularly pleasant to report this, in an area where there is so much gastro-intestinal disease about.

The number of notifiable diseases notified in the past five years is as follows:-

1965	---	---	9
1964	---	---	37
1963	---	---	1
1962	---	---	1
1961	---	---	6

In an area such as Trawden the great majority of the younger school children will all attend the school in the town, and so will not come into regular contact with infectious diseases endemic in the larger urban areas. But when an infection is introduced, there will be a sudden and all embracing epidemic, which only abates when the supply of contacts is exhausted.

For this reason we must not relax our aim to have every baby protected from diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, and tetanus (lock-jaw). The young mothers of today have never known the tragedies of diphtheria, and we hope that our children will not know that of poliomyelitis. The acceptance rate for smallpox vaccine is particularly disappointing.

Immunisation is a free service, available either from the family doctor or at child welfare centres.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was required in 1965.

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REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1965.

Dr. J. V. Dyer,
Medical Officer of Health,
Trawden U.D.C.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ended 31st December 1965.

There has again been an increase in the number of Standard Grant applications approved by the Council, and it may be said that although the houses in the District generally are of considerable age, a great many of them have a high standard of amenity. It would seem that the house owners of Trawden take a real pride in their property, and believe in creating the best possible living conditions.

Due,unfortunately,to increasing labour problems, the difficulty of maintaining a regular and efficient public cleansing service has become more acute during the year, and this is more fully referred to in the body of my report.

Once again I am able to say that infectious diseases and public health nuisances have given comparitively little cause for concern, a sure indication of a good standard of environmental health.

My thanks are due to you for your help and advice, to the Health Committee for their support, and to my colleagues on the staff of the Council for their generous assistance.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. H. Short,

Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Public Supply.

The mains water for the Urban District is supplied by the North Calder Water Board, and is derived from springs on Boulsworth Hill.

During the year 37 samples of water from the public supply were taken for Bacteriological Examination and 2 for Chemical Analysis. The supply is adequate, soft, and of good quality.

No. of houses supplied --- --- ---	674
No. of business premises supplied ---	61
No. of places of worship supplied ---	7

Hardness of Mains Water.

	Parts per million.
Temporary Hardness (removeable by boiling) ---	20
Permanent " (after boiling) --- ---	5
Total Hardness	25

Private Water Supplies.

81 houses and farms, which have no public mains within a reasonable distance are supplied from private sources.

During the year 5 samples were taken for Bacteriological Examination, of which 4 were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewers of the District discharge into the Colne Corporation sewer at Cottontree, via a Lea Recorder, and treatment is carried out by Colne Corporation under agreement.

There are approximately $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles of sewers in the District.

As was anticipated in my report for last year, further defects came to light in the sewer along the river side from Hollin Hall, and it was found necessary to relay approximately 50 yards of this in cast iron pipes and a similar length in glazed stoneware pipes. At the same time the opportunity was taken to build an additional manhole to provide better access to the sewer.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No serious pollution of the rivers and streams in the District occurred during the year.

Following the flooding of Trawden Brook in the Skipton Road area during a very heavy storm in July 1964, investigations have been made by the Lancashire River Authority and myself, and it is hoped that in due course the necessary action will be taken to prevent a repetition of this occurrence in the future.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

78 properties are on the conservancy system, the majority of which are in outlying locations. The provision of a septic tank often presents difficulties by reason of unsuitable gradients, availability of land, and facilities for the discharge of the effluent. However, enquiries have been received and advice given regarding the provision of septic tanks and it now seems likely that some progress will be made in this field. This can be accounted for to some extent by reason of the Housing Act, 1964, which provides for an increase from £155 to £350 in the maximum Standard Grant available in cases where septic tank drainage has to be installed.

There have been more waste water closet conversions than in 1964 but progress still remains rather slow.

Sanitary Accommodation at the end of 1965:-

Pail Closets --- --- --- --- ---	78
Waste Water Closets --- --- --- ---	144
Fresh Water Closets --- --- --- ---	725
Pail Closets converted during the year ---	5
Waste Water Closets converted during the year	9

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of refuse is carried out fortnightly from approximately 800 ashbins, using a 2/3 ton Bedford side loader. Disposal is by tipping in a disused quarry at Winewall.

Early in the year the frequency of tip fires became a source of concern, and thanks are due to the Fire Service for their co-operation and effective action in abating the nuisance. A tractor shovel was also hired to seal off the face of the tip with earth.

The labour situation has repeatedly caused concern and is becoming an increasingly acute problem. Inevitably the public cleansing service has suffered and it has not always been possible to maintain the desired frequency and efficiency of refuse collection. During the year 900 hours were lost through sickness, 380 hours through absences for other reasons, and 520 hours due to staff shortages, giving a total loss of 1,800 man hours, or 45 man weeks. Judging by the present trends throughout the country, it would appear that the situation is likely to deteriorate rather than improve.

The salvage of waste paper has continued during the year and $28\frac{1}{2}$ tons were collected which realised an income of £212 : 16 : 6. In addition general scrap to the value of £51 : 9 : 6 was recovered.

During the year a street orderly was purchased to facilitate the work of street scavenging.

A charge of 2/- per bin is made for the collection of trade waste.

When necessary the Council hire a motor gully emptier from a neighbouring authority for the cleansing of road gullies.

The pail closets in the area, except a number in outlying situations, are serviced weekly by private contractor.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Council own and maintain two modern public conveniences, and one public urinal, and these are cleansed weekly. Public conveniences, utilising pail closets are also maintained at Wycoller.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Inspections have been made of the shops and offices in the area, and no legal action has been necessary.

FACTORIES.

Factories Act 1961.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES.	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A.	9	14	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	1	6	-	-
Total	10	20	-	-

There were no outworkers resident in the District.

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Type of Property		
	Dwelling Houses	All Others.	Agricultural
No. of properties in District	720	240	71
No. of properties inspected	72	30	12
No. of properties inspected found to be infested by			
Rats - Major	-	-	-
Minor	1	3	-
Mice - Major	-	-	-
Minor	4	3	-
No. of infested premises treated	2	6	-
No. of block control schemes.	-	-	-

Treatment of Sewers for Rats.

Baiting of the sewers for rats was carried out during the year, using a ready-mix of Warfarin '5', pinhead oatmeal, castor sugar, technical white oil, and paranitrophenol. The results indicated an absence of infestation of the sewers.

In no case was legal action found necessary under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

No legal action was necessary under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

DISINFESTATION.

It is encouraging to note that no cases of serious infestation by insect pests have occurred requiring action by the Local Authority. Advice and assistance has been given when sought in minor cases.

HOUSING.

The housing conditions in the area are generally good, and although many of the houses are old and of the terrace type, the majority of these are well maintained and provided with amenities formerly lacking.

There has been a marked increase in the number of house owners taking advantage of the Standard Grant provisions of House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, a total of 27 applications having been received during the year. It is encouraging to note that this is considerably more than in any previous year. Since the inception of the Standard Grant scheme the number of applications submitted has reached 106.

STATISTICS.

Number of inhabited houses	762
" " dwelling-houses inspected	95
" " houses closed	nil
" " " demolished	nil
" " back-to-back houses	38
" " other houses with no through ventilation	54

Standard Grants.

Applications submitted to Local Authority	27
" approved by " "	27
Work completed and grants paid	23

Local Authority Housing. The erection was commenced during the year of 11 bungalows for old people at Boulsworth Drive. Progress to date has been much slower than was expected, but it is hoped that this will improve in 1966.

Plans have been submitted for the development of land at Skipton Road adjoining Holme Crescent. The scheme is for the erection of 21 three bedroom houses and 8 two bedroom flats, and it is anticipated that the work will be commenced sometime during 1966.

MILK SUPPLY.

Sampling.

Total number of samples taken and submitted for biological examination - 21.

Results.

	Positive	Negative	Equivocal.
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-
(b) Brucellosis - Ring test.	2	18	1
(c) " - Culture.	2	1	-

In the case of a positive Brucella culture result the milk from the cow concerned is sent for heat treatment. The producer is advised as to milking methods in order to prevent the spread of brucella abortus to the milk of the remaining cows in the herd.

ICE CREAM.

There are six premises registered for the storage and sale of prepacked ice cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Regular inspections have been made during the year. There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area. Three mobile ice cream vendors from neighbouring areastrade in the District.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There are no caravan or camping sites, no common-lodging houses, no houses let in multiple occupation, and no offensive trades in the District.

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